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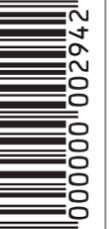
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**REVEALED**

## Labour's new secret weapon



# Marisa dumps Gonzi for Muscat

Former Housing Authority chairperson **Marisa Micallef** in sensational cross-over to Labour as Joseph Muscat's new press officer

MARISA Micallef (formerly Micallef Leyson), the darling of Prime Minister Lawrence Gonzi and a heavyweight within Nationalist circles, will be the official spokesperson of Labour leader Joseph Muscat in a move that is likely to shock the PN establishment.

Marisa Micallef is more than just a prototype Nationalist supporter. The former PN candidate and politically-appointed Housing Authority chairman

was very close to Gonzi – whom she actively backed in his 2003 leadership bid against John Dalli – and had previously contested national elections with the Nationalist Party on the 9th district.

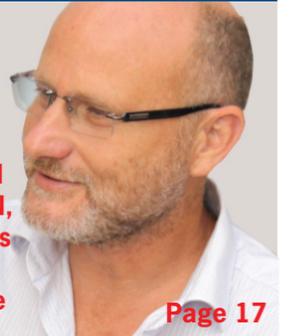
However, she is understood to have recently fallen out with Education Minister Dolores Cristina, and in recent contributions to the press has been scathing about the present administration of government.

On a political level, Muscat will score abundant brownie points for his latest star acquisition; but Micallef does not come without a hefty price-tag. In her last term as Housing Authority chairman, she negotiated a handsome pay package in contrast to her former wage, which she constantly described as paltry. Her latest move to Labour will cost the party a figure rumoured to hover around 40K.

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## Saviour Balzan

The Mother of all Conversions  
**Marisa's** defection will shock the PN, but it remains a short-sighted move



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## Interview



Lino Farrugia  
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## Foreign



Inside Gaza's tunnels  
**Karl Schembri** reports  
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## Next Wednesday



## NUCLEAR

Friend or Foe?

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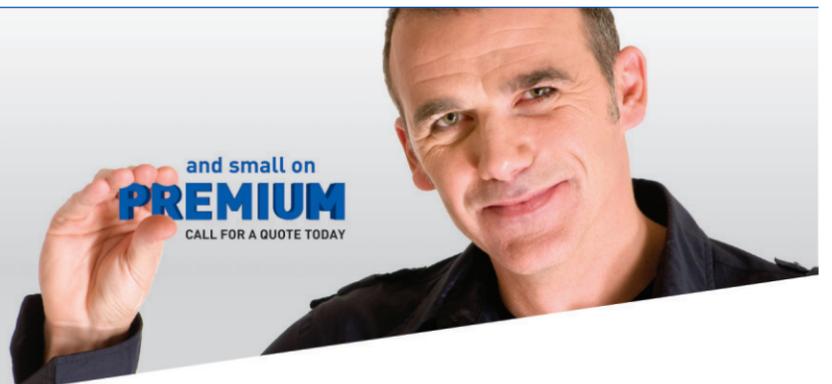
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